

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 GENEVA 05551 01 OF 03 132019Z

ACTION DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-12 AGRE-00
AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 COME-00 DOTE-00 EB-08
EPA-04 SOE-02 DOE-15 FMC-02 TRSE-00 H-02 INR-10
INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSF-02 OES-07 OMB-01 PA-02
PM-05 SP-02 SS-15 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12
NEA-10 OIC-02 /188 W

-----129011 132039Z /41

O 131125Z APR 78

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8312

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 03 GENEVA 05551

FROM LOS DEL FOR D/LOS, DELIVER TO AMB. RICHARDSON BY
9:00 A.M. APRIL 13

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: LOS - ENGO SPEECH IN PLENARY APRIL 12

1. ORGANIZATION OF WORK ALONG LINES OF GENERAL COMMITTEE
DECISION ADOPTED AFTER LABORIOUS DEBATE (REPORTED SEPTTEL).

2. ENGO (CAMEROON) MADE SPEECH AT END OF MEETING WHICH
DEFENDED HIS CONDUCT IN DRAFTING SEABED PORTION OF ICNT,
NOTED ALL RPT ALL INTERESTED DELS CONSULTED IN PROCESS,
AND INDICATED OFFENSE AT PERSONAL ATTACKS BY PRESS AND
OTHERS. NO RESPONSES TO SPEECH WERE MADE.

3. SPEECH FOLLOWS: BEGIN QUOTE

MR. PRESIDENT,

IT IS ONLY MOTIVATIONS OF THE COMMON GOOD THAT COMPEL ME,
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PAGE 02 GENEVA 05551 01 OF 03 132019Z

OTHERWISE VERY RELUCTANT, TO TAKE THE FLOOR AT THIS TIME
TO DEAL WITH A QUESTION ON WHICH I WAS INCLINED NOT TO
COMMENT. I WISH FIRST TO APOLOGISE FOR DOING THIS; I HOPE
THAT THE CONDITIONS WHICH NOW MAKE IT NECESSARY WILL NOT
EXIST IN THE FUTURE.

MR. PRESIDENT, WE ASSEMBLE IN THIS CONFERENCE TO ELABORATE

PERHAPS THE MOST IMPORTANT TREATY IN HISTORY. OUR NATIONS, WITH VARYING DEGREES OF DEVELOPMENT, ALL SEEKING A NEW WORLD THAT GUARANTEES THE VERY SURVIVAL OF MAN THROUGH PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE AND CO-OPERATION AMONG STATES, HAVE CONTINUED TO MAKE SIGNIFICANT SACRIFICES TO BRING US HERE TO NEGOTIATE THAT TREATY.

IT IS IMPERATIVE, THEREFORE, THAT WE COLLECTIVELY DO NOT IMPAIR PROGRESS IN THAT DIRECTION BY PERMITTING SIDE-SHOWS THAT DISTRACT US FROM OUR COURSE. THERE CAN BE NO SUBSTITUTE FOR INDIVIDUAL AND COLLECTIVE EFFORT TO RESOLVE OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS AMONG OURSELVES AS DELEGATES.

IT IS BECAUSE WE FOUND GRAVE DIFFICULTIES, AS IMPASSE AFTER IMPASSE NAGGED US INTO FRUSTRATION, THAT WE DEvised THE EXISTING MEANS OF PRODUCING NEGOTIATING TEXTS THROUGH THE EFFORTS OF THE CHAIRMEN.

IT WAS MADE CLEAR IN THAT PROCESS THAT WHAT THE CHAIRMEN PRODUCED SHOULD CONSTITUTE AN INFORMAL BASIS FOR FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS, AND THAT THE CONTENTS OF THEIR TEXTS BOUND NO ONE. ON ONE OCCASION, I EMPHASISED THAT, AS CHAIRMAN, IT DID NOT BIND EVEN ME*

IT IS THE DUTY OF DELEGATIONS OF SOVEREIGN STATES, AS I SEE IT, TO EXAMINE THESE TEXTS AND TO NEGOTIATE AMONG

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PAGE 03 GENEVA 05551 01 OF 03 132019Z

THEMSELVES WITH A VIEW TO FINDING COMMON GROUND. THEY ALONE HAVE THE FUNDAMENTAL DUTY OF ADOPTING A FINAL CONVENTION. THE DUTY OF THE CHAIRMAN IS TO PRESIDE AND TO FORCE ALONG THAT ATTAINMENT.

DELEGATIONS MUST REMEMBER THE DUTY THEY OWE THEIR GOVERNMENTS, AND THEIR PEOPLE, TO THE PRESENT AND TO FUTURE GENERATIONS. THE COMMON ENEMY IS THE BODY OF ISSUES THAT DIVIDE US.

IT HAS BEEN MY PAINFUL EXPERIENCE TO OBSERVE THAT A HANDFUL OF DELEGATIONS, HANDFUL BUT IMPORTANT DELEGATIONS, HAS REGRETFULLY FOLLOWED RHETORIC TO OBSCURITY. CONTRARY TO THE USUAL DECORUM IN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES, THEY HAVE RESORTED TO PERSONAL ATTACKS ON THE HOLDERS OF OFFICE AT THIS CONFERENCE. INNUENDOS, PERHAPS QUITE UNINTENDED, HAVE BEEN PICKED UP BY A SMALL SENSATION-SEEKING SECTION OF THE PRESS AND BLOWN UP OUT OF ALL PROPORTION. THE INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC HAS ALSO BEEN ENCOURAGED TO VIEW WITH MISGUIDED CONTEMPT THE DEDICATION OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE.

I WISH TO THANK THOSE OF THE PRESS WHO HAVE SHOWN RES-
TRAIT AND HAVE SOUGHT THE TRUE FACTS. THIS GOES TOO FOR
INDIVIDUALS.

I WISH TO STATE CLEARLY THAT IT HAS NEVER BEEN MY INTENTION
HERE TO DO ANYTHING TO PREJUDICE THE LEGITIMATE INTERESTS
OF ANY NATION OR STATE PARTICIPATING IN THIS CONFERENCE.
I HAVE EXPLAINED ON MANY OCCASIONS TO THE DISTINGUISHED
DELEGATION CONCERNED THE REASONS WHY THE VARIOUS TEXTS PRE-
PARED BY ME HAVE CONTAINED REFERENCE TO THE SITE OF THE PRO-
POSED INTERNATIONAL SEA-BED AUTHORITY. I DID NOT HIDE THE
PRINCIPLE I ADOPTED. IT WAS INDEED IN PLENARY THAT THE
GROUP OF 77, CONSISTING OF THE VAST MAJORITY OF CONFERENCE
PARTICIPANTS ANNOUNCED ITS DECISION TO SUPPORT THE CANDIDA-
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PAGE 04 GENEVA 05551 01 OF 03 132019Z

TURE OF JAMAICA. THE TEXT REFLECTS WHAT HAS HAPPENED SINCE.
THE EXPLANATORY NOTES THAT HAVE ACCOMPANIED THESE TEXTS HAVE

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 05551 02 OF 03 132020Z
ACTION DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12
EUR-12 NEA-10 OIC-02 /084 W
-----129049 132038Z /43

O 131125Z APR 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8313

UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 03 GENEVA 05551

FROM LOS DEL FOR D/LOS, DELIVER TO AMB. RICHARDSON BY
9:00 A.M. APRIL 13

GIVEN WRITTEN EXPRESSION TO THIS PRINCIPLE. HERE I WOULD
ALSO REFER TO 2 PASSAGES IN THAT DOCUMENT (DOC. A/CONF.62/
WPIO ART 1).

I HAVE NO PERSONAL INTEREST IN THE ISSUE; IN FACT, I HAVE HAD THE HONOUR AND PRIVILEGE OF A LONG-STANDING FRIENDSHIP WITH EACH OF THE THREE INTERESTED DELEGATIONS. I DO NOT THINK ANY OF THE CONTESTANTS NEED LOOK AT ME EITHER IN THEIR FRUSTRATIONS OR IN THEIR ELATION. THE CONFERENCE HAS YET TO PUT IN MOTION THE PROCESSES BY WHICH JUDGEMENT ON THIS ISSUE WILL BE MADE.

MR. PRESIDENT, I MUST ALSO MAKE REFERENCE TO THE DISTRACTING PERSONAL ATTACK MADE AND BLOWN SKY-HIGH BY THE INTERNATIONAL PRESS. I WAS ATTACKED OPENLY FOR HAVING DISCARDED, OR AT BEST IGNORED, AN ALLEGED AGREEMENT WHICH WAS WORKED OUT UNDER THE FAIR AND JUST LEADERSHIP OF MY DEDICATED CO-ORDINATOR, MR. JENS EVENSEN, NORWAY'S DISTINGUISHED SEA-LAW MINISTER.

THAT THE I.C.N.T. IS FOUND UNACCEPTABLE IS NOT THE ISSUE. THE IMPORTANT QUESTION APPEARS TO BE THAT, FOR SOME DUBIOUS UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 05551 02 OF 03 132020Z

REASON WHICH ELUDES MY COMPREHENSION, I UNDERTOOK A CRUSADE TO DESTROY THE SUCCESSFUL ATTAINMENTS OF MR. EVENSEN BY IMPROPERLY REJECTING ALL HIS REPORTS CONCERNING AGREEMENTS REACHED.

IT IS MERELY IN ORDER TO ATTEMPT TO ALLAY THE APPARENT DIS-QUIET INDUCED BY THE UNFORTUNATE MISREPRESENTATION OF THE FACTS THAT I MAKE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

- (1) THAT THE FULL RESPONSIBILITY TO THE CONFERENCE REGARDING THE I.C.N.T. RESTED ON THE CHAIRMAN, NOT ON HIS CO-ORDINATOR;
- (2) THAT MR. EVENSEN, IN ALL HIS DEDICATION AND EFFORTS, WAS NOT SUCCESSFUL IN GETTING DELEGATIONS TO AGREE TO ANY TEXT, AND THAT HE MADE THIS VERY CLEAR IN HIS VERBAL AS WELL AS WRITTEN REPORTS TO ME;
- (3) THAT MR. EVENSEN AT NO TIME INDICATED TO ME THAT ANY AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED EITHER BY THE INFORMAL CHAIRMAN'S NEGOTIATING GROUP OR BY ANY SMALLER GROUP WHICH (AT LEAST WITHOUT MY KNOWLEDGE) HE MAY HAVE ESTABLISHED;
- (4) THAT, IN SPITE OF THIS, MR. EVENSEN BOLDLY SET UP TEXTUAL PERSONAL RECOMMENDATIONS AT MY REQUEST;
- (5) THAT I DISTRIBUTED THESE TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE WITH A VIEW TO RECEIVING THEIR REACTIONS;
- (6) THAT I RECEIVED THESE REACTIONS BOTH BY WORD OF MOUTH

AND IN WRITING FROM ALL INTERESTED PARTIES DURING THE PERIOD WHICH TERMINATED BY WITH THE SUBMISSION OF MY TEXT FOR FULL CONSIDERATION BY THE COLLEGIATE TEAM HEADED BY THE PRESIDENT. IN THIS REGARD, NO DELEGATION ASKED FOR AND UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 GENEVA 05551 02 OF 03 132020Z

WAS REFUSED AUDIENCE WITH ME. THE INDUSTRIALISED COUNTRIES ALL - I REPEAT, ALL - EXPLOITED THE OPPORTUNITY VERY MANY TIMES;

(7) THAT THE MATERIAL IDEAS PROPOSED BY MR. EVENSEN WERE REJECTED BY MOST;

(8) THAT THE CONTENTS OF PART XI OF THE I.C.N.T. DEALING WITH SEA-BED MINING WAS PRODUCED BY ME PERSONALLY AFTER AND AS A RESULT OF THESE INTENSIVE CONSULTATIONS;

(9) THAT THE ONLY PORTIONS DICTATED TO ME, AND THE INTRODUCTION TO THE I.C.N.T. MAKES THIS CRYSTAL-CLEAR, WERE THOSE WORKED OUT BY GROUPS OF EXPERTS AND AD HOC GROUPS SET UP OPENLY TO DEAL WITH FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS AND ASPECTS OF THE RESOURCE POLICY RELATING TO THE AREA (ARTICLE 150(G)). IN EACH OF THESE, THE ACTIVE PARTICIPATION OF INTERESTED DELEGATIONS FROM THE INDUSTRIALISED AND OTHER DEVELOPED COUNTRIES WAS EVIDENT;

(10) THAT THE ISSUE OF TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY UNDER JUST OR EQUITABLE TERMS WAS DISCUSSED FULLY AND AGREED UPON WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MOST INTERESTED DELEGATION BEFORE BEING ADOPTED BY ME.

I HAVE EXPLAINED THESE POINTS IN ORDER TO REASSURE THOSE WHO NEED SUCH REASSURANCE FROM ME THAT I WAS NOT DEBAUCHED FROM MY USUAL SENSE OF DUTY AND DEDICATION TO THE ATTAINMENT OF COMPROMISE BY ANY IMPROPER MOTIVES, BE THEY PERSONAL OR FOR SECTIONAL INTEREST.

IN SPITE OF ALL I HAVE SAID, IF ANY DELEGATES OR DELEGATIONS FEEL THAT A GENERALLY-AGREED TEXT HAD BEEN ACHIEVED DURING THE ENDEAVOURS OF MR. JENS EVENSEN, I WARMLY, ENTHUSIASTICALLY AND IN ALL SINCERITY INVITE THE PRODUCTION OF SUCH A TEXT AND ITS ADOPTION. I ADOPTED MOST OF MR. EVENSEN'S UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 04 GENEVA 05551 02 OF 03 132020Z

NOTE BY OC/T: MESSAGE DELAYED IN TRANSMISSION.

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 05551 03 OF 03 131154Z
ACTION DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
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AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 COME-00 DOTE-00 EB-08
EPA-04 SOE-02 DOE-15 FMC-02 TRSE-00 H-02 INR-10
INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSF-02 OES-07 OMB-01 PA-02
PM-05 SP-02 SS-15 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12
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-----120306 132038Z /41

O 131125Z APR 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8314

UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 03 GENEVA 05551

FROM LOSDEL FOR D/LOS, DELIVER TO AMB. RICHARDSON BY
9:00 A.M. APRIL 13

RECOMMENDATIONS, UPON WHICH I DID NOT FIND SERIOUS OBJEC-
TIONS. I TOOK MY RESPONSIBILITY AND SUBMITTED, THROUGH
THE I.C.N.T., WHAT I FELT WAS A GOOD BASIS FOR FURTHER
NEGOTIATIONS ON THOSE ISSUES ON WHICH OPPOSING VIEWS WERE
STILL STRONG. IT IS MY SINCERE HOPE THAT, AT THIS SESSION,
WE SHALL DIRECT OUR MINDS FULLY TO THE CORE ISSUES IDENTI-
FIED, FULLY ASSURED THAT THE MORAL RESTRAINTS AND DEDICA-
TION OF THE OCCUPANT OF THE CHAIR OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE
REMAIN INTACT. IN FACT, HE WOULD APPEAL ON HIS OWN BEHALF,
ON BEHALF OF THE BUREAU AND THE COMMITTEE HE HEADS, THAT
GREATER USE BE MADE OF HIM THAN HAS BEEN IN PAST SESSIONS
IN WHICH THE TENDENCY HAS BEEN TO CREATE NEW FORA OF
DETACHED NEGOTIATIONS IN WHICH HE AND HIS BUREAU COULD TAKE
ACTIVE PART. IF I AM TO ATTEMPT REALISTICALLY TO HELP CURE
EXISTING AILMENTS, IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT I BE ARMED WITH
OPPORTUNITY TO DIAGNOSE THESE AILMENTS AND TO ADMINISTER
WHAT, IN MY CONSIDERED OPINION, COULD PROVIDE CURATIVE
INGREDIENTS.

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 05551 03 OF 03 131154Z

I HAVE NO BITTERNESS IN MY HEART. IN SPITE OF INNUENDOS AND DIRECT REFERENCE TO ANY PERSON, ALL BORDERING HARD ON TORTUOUS LIBEL, I DO NOT TAKE THIS ON THE PERSONAL SIDE. I TAKE IT AS PART OF THE BURDENS OF OFFICE THAT I SHOULD RECEIVE IT WITH MODESTY.

THERE ARE MOMENTS WHEN I WOULD WISH TO SPEAK THE LANGUAGE OF MY FATHERS AND NOT THAT OF MY LEARNING. THIS MOMENT IS ONE OF THEM. THE PROFOUND THOUGHTS OF THE HEART FIND BETTER EXPRESSION THROUGH THE LANGUAGE IN WHICH ONE'S CULTURE EXPRESSES ITSELF. THAT I HAVE NO CHOICE IS REGRET-TABLE; FOR, INDEED, I MUST ALWAYS RESORT TO THAT WHICH IS NOT MINE. AND THAT BECAUSE IT IS THE ONLY AVAILABLE MEANS OF COMMUNICATION IN THIS FORUM. MAYBE IT IS BETTER THIS WAY, BECAUSE IN THE PROCESS, THE PASSIONS THESE THINGS PROVOKE ARE TAMED BY MY INABILITY TO EXPRESS THEM ADEQUATELY.

THANK YOU, SIR. END QUOTE.

4. DELEGATION DOES NOT REPEAT NOT INTEND TO MAKE ANY PUBLIC RESPONSE TO THE ENGO STATEMENT. ALDRICH

NOTE BY OC/T: MESSAGE DELAYED IN TRANSMISSION.

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 13 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978GENEVA05551
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780159-0728
Format: TEL
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
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Line Count: 357
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Litigation Codes:
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Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b1f839b1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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SAS ID: 2984367
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TAGS: PLOS, (ENGO, PAUL)
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